

## Patent claims

We claim:

1. Use of nanoscalar water soluble  $\beta$ -(1,3) glucans, which are substantially free from  $\beta$ -(1,6) linkages and have particle diameters in the area of 10 to 300 nm, for producing cosmetic and/or pharmaceutical preparations.
2. Use according to claim 1, ~~characterised by that~~ *wherein* glucans based on yeasts of the family *Saccharomyces* are used.
3. Use according to ~~the claims 1, and/or 2, characterised by that~~ *wherein* glucans are used which have been obtained by contacting glucans with  $\beta$ -(1,3) and  $\beta$ -(1,6) linkages in such a way with  $\beta$ -(1,6) glucanases that practically all  $\beta$ -(1,6) linkages are loosened, wherafter the lysis products are brought into a nanoscalar form.
4. Use according to claim 3, ~~characterised by that~~ *wherein* glucans are used which have been treated with glucanases based on *Trichoderma harzianum*.
5. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 4, characterised by that~~ *wherein* nano particles which are embedded in a protecting colloid are used.
6. Use according to claim 5, ~~characterised by that~~ *wherein* polyvinyl alcohol or polyethyten glycol are used as protecting colloid.
7. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 6, characterised by that~~ *wherein* the glucans are used in amounts of 0,1 to 5 % by weight, based on the preparations.
8. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 7, characterised by that~~ *wherein* the glucans are used for manufacture of hair care agents.
9. Use according to ~~at least one of the claims 1 to 7, characterised by that~~ *wherein* the glucans are used for manufacture of skin care and sun protecting agents.

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